Finance Commission for not recommending Plan revenue deficit grant;

(b) whether any decision has been taken to augment the resources of the States by an additional grant from the Planning Commission;

(c) if so, the quantum of such grant to the State of Madhya Pradesh and by when it will be made available; and

(d) whether in deciding the quantum of this grant the escalation over the Plan revenue defieit grant recommended by the 9th Commission would be taken into account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHYj- (a) The Ninth Finance Commission was required to adopt a normative approach in assessing the receipts and expenditures on revenue account (Plan and Non-Plan) of the States and Centre. It had, therefore, recommended Plan revenue deficit grants to some States. The Tenth Finance Commission in its report in para 2.27 have observed as under:—

> "2.27 .....But our terms of reference also explicitly require us to assess non-plan revenue expenditure. Our period of recommendations not being co-terminus with the Eighth plan has further complicated the issue. The practical difficulties of making acceptable projections of plan outlay-even for the remaining two years of the plan-were brought to our notice by the representatives of the Planning Commission. Most States have also chosen not to hazard any estimates. In view of these constraints we have confined our reassessment to the non-plan revenue account."

In view of the above Plan revenue deficit grants have not been recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

(b) and (c) The total devolution to States as per the Award of the Tenth Finance Commission for the period 1995—2000 is estimated to be Rs. 2,26,643 crores as compared to Rs. 1,06,036 crores recommended by the Ninth Finance Commission during 1990—95. There is adequ.i«c increase in the total devolution to States as recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give additional Non-Plan grants to the States in addition to what is already recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

(d) Question does not arise.

Coal Shortage in Kaichur Thermal Power Station

2031. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Raichur Thermal Power Station (RTPS) is facing acute shortage of coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to ease the situation; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILA BEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inadequate supply from Singreni Collieries of SCCL, to which the Raichurthermal power station is linked onlong-term basis, is the main reason for the shortage of coal.

(c) and (d) Additional coal linkage has been proposed for Raichur from other coal fields and Railways have been requested to move coal from other regions to mitigate the crisis. The Karnataka Government have also been advised to import coal to overcome the shortages. The coal supply position is reviewed constantly by CEA and in inter-ministerial meetings.